

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 18, as follows:

Tufts 11, 12, 21 to 24, 31 to 34, 41 to 44, 51 and 53 52 are arranged in 5 rows in the lengthwise direction in tufting part A and there is at most 1 row of tufts in the direction of width. Moreover, the vertical cross section of the tufting holes in which these tufts have been planted is represented by attaching an "a" to the symbols for the corresponding tuft.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 22, as follows:

The toothbrush of the present invention is excellent in terms of its cleaning activity on smooth surface Z1, and it has excellent cleaning activity for interdental site A2 Z2, which is the part between adjacent teeth, occlusal surface Z3 of a molar tooth, etc., and a cervical portion of the tooth Z4 shown by Figures 20 and 21.

However, particularly good cleaning activity that should be emphasized is realized at interdental part Z2.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 34, line 6, as follows:

The toothbrush is molded using an injection molding and the tufting base in which the tufting holes have been formed is molded

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by filling molten synthetic resin into a cavity for molding the tufting base in the mold. Pins for forming the tufting holes are planted in the cavity and the molten synthetic resin flows around these pins for forming the tufting holes. Once the synthetic resin has cured, the mold is opened and the pins for molding the tufting holes are at the same time removed to form the tufting holes. Tufting holes are molded in this way. Pins that correspond to the shape of the tufting holes to be made can be used for the pin for forming the tufting holes, but the state in which the molten synthetic resin will flow around the pin varies with the shape of this pin used to form the tufting holes and this will affect cracking of the tufting base. For instance, when tufting holes that are rectangular in shape are used, pins 200 for forming tufting holes will have angles 201, as shown in Figure 35. Nevertheless, since it does have angles 201, the molten synthetic resin that is supposed to flow around angle 201 and into space 205 between this pin and adjacent pin 210 200 for forming tufting holes will not flow exactly along the surface of pin 200 for molding tufting holes and as a result, the resin will not firmly bond back together when it flows around pin 200 for molding the tufting holes and then merges again. Consequently, the part where the resin is not thoroughly bonded together will easily crack. Since an anchor will be driven into the part where the resin is not firmly bonded together when an anchor is driven parallel in the lengthwise direction of the tufting holes, cracks will form even more easily. This is particularly obvious when the center line in the direction

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of width of adjacent tufting holes overlaps a line extending on the center line in the direction of width of the tufting holes as shown in Figure 35, that is, when the space between adjacent tufting holes is narrow.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 48, line 14, as follows:

Moreover, when there are 5 rows of tufts in the lengthwise direction of the tufting base, with Rows 1 and 5 forming one converging block in the center in the direction of width of the tufting base, Rows 2 and 4 forming 2 converging blocks on either side sandwiching the center in the direction of width of the tufting base, and Row 3 forming one converging block at the center in the direction of width of the converging block, and there is 1 independent tuft, each inclined so that it is in the same direction as the tufts that form the above-mentioned converging blocks, but its end portion does not touch the converging blocks, to the outside of the above-mentioned converging blocks, the front surface in the forward direction of the site to be cleaned is brushed by Row 1 of converging blocks, these tufts being run up on the tooth, and then the tufts on both sides in the direction of width comprising Row 2 are pushed to ~~ether~~ either side of the tooth and both sides are brushed by the tufts in Row 2. Then this front surface is brought into contact with Row 3 and this same state is

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repeated moving from Row 3 to Row 1. Thus, a toothbrush with strong cleaning performance is obtained.

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